

Our independent analysis of the issues will be in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments on the EA before we recommend that the Commission approve or not approve the project.

#### Currently Identified Environmental Issues

We have already identified several issues that we think deserve attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by KN. This preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

- Nine federally listed endangered and threatened species and two candidate species may be present in the project area.
- Four perennial waterbodies would be crossed by the proposed facilities, including the North Platte River in Wyoming.
- The site of the proposed North Platte River crossing is adjacent to the Brookhurst Superfund site near Casper, Wyoming.

Also, we have made a preliminary decision to not address the impacts of the nonjurisdictional KN Energy facilities discussed on page 2. We will briefly describe their location and status in the EA.

#### Public Participation

You can make a difference by sending a letter addressing your specific comments or concerns about the project. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal including alternative routes), and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Please follow the instructions below to ensure that your comments are received and properly recorded:

- Address your letter to: Lois Cashell, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., N.E., Washington, DC 20426;
- Reference Docket No. CP96-477-000;
- Send a *copy* of your letter to: Ms. Elizabeth J. Secrest, EA Project Manager, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission,

888 First St., NE., PR-11.1, Washington, DC 20426; and

- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC, on or before August 1, 1996.

If you wish to receive a copy of the EA, you should request one from Ms. Secrest at the above address.

#### Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding or become an "intervenor." Among other things, intervenors have the right to receive copies of case-related Commission documents and filings by other intervenors. Likewise, each intervenor must provide copies of its filings to all other parties. If you want to become an intervenor you must file a motion to intervene according to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214) (see appendix 2).

The date for filing timely motions to intervene in this proceeding has passed. Therefore, parties now seeking to file late interventions must show good cause, as required by section 385.214(b)(3), why this time limitation should be waived. Environmental issues have been viewed as good cause for late intervention. You do not need intervenor status to have your scoping comments considered.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from Ms. Elizabeth J. Secrest, EA Project Manager, at (202) 208-0918.

Lois D. Cashell,  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-17344 Filed 7-8-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

#### [Project No. 2482-021]

#### Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation; Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Assessment

July 2, 1996.

A final environmental assessment (FEA) is available for public review. The FEA was prepared for an application filed by Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (licensee) to remove polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from lands within the boundary of the Hudson River Hydroelectric Project. The licensee proposes to remove PCBs at the Queensbury site in accordance with a record of decision issued March 1995 by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. In summary, the licensee proposes to excavate and remove all surface soil (1 foot from surface) on the upland portion

of the site with total PCB concentrations in excess of 1 ppm and subsurface soil with concentrations in excess of 10 ppm. Further, the licensee proposes to excavate and remove to a depth of 2 feet near-shore river sediments. The Queensbury site is located on Corinth Road, Town of Queensbury, Warren County, New York, on the north bank of the Hudson River, about 5 miles west of Glens Falls, New York.

The FEA finds that the licensee's remediation plan is not a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. The FEA was written by staff in the Office of Hydropower Licensing, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Copies of the FEA can be obtained by calling the Commission's Public Reference Room at (202) 208-1371.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-17409 Filed 7-8-96; 8:45 am]

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#### Hydroelectric Applications [Idaho Power Company, et al.]; Notice of Applications

#### [Project Nos. 1975-014, et al.]

Take notice that the following hydroelectric applications have been filed with the Commission and are available for public inspection:

1a. *Type of Application:* Major New License.

b. *Project No.:* 1975-014.

c. *Date filed:* December 20, 1995.

d. *Applicant:* Idaho Power Company.

e. *Name of Project:* Bliss.

f. *Location:* On the Snake River, at river mile 560 from the confluence with the Columbia River in Gooding, Twin Falls, and Elmore Counties, Idaho.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 USC §§ 791(a)-825(r).

h. *Applicant Contact:* Robert W. Stahman, Idaho Power Company, 1221 West Idaho Street, P.O. Box 70, Boise, ID 83707, (208) 388-2676.

i. *FERC Contact:* Héctor M. Pérez, (202) 219-2843.

j. *Deadline for filing interventions and protests:* August 29, 1996.

k. *Status of Environmental Analysis:* This application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time—see attached paragraph E.

l. *Brief Description of Project:* The project consists of: (1) an 84-foot-high, 364-foot-long concrete dam with a crest elevation of 2,655 feet mean sea level (msl); (2) a 216-foot-long concrete ogee spillway with a crest elevation of 2,624 feet and four bays equipped with 30-foot-high tainter gates; (3) Bliss